MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY NEWS

Issued Quarterly

University of Michigan General Library Library Science Study tall

Ву

The Mississippi Library Commission

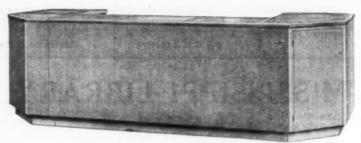
AND

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I. GOOD-BYE, BUT NOT FAREWELL

The Editor

"Parting is such sweet sorrow"
"Tis true
But it isn't so sweet
When on the tomorrow
The one who's departing
Is you.

Though it does bring a tug to the heart there need be no regret when a chapter is ended or a door closed. It may mean a new chapter begun and new doors opened. And may the new chapter in Mississippi Libraries be a bright one and new doors of opportunity be opened.

Last summer when the Library Commission Board announced the resignation of the director a letter from a good Mississippi library friend recalled the quotation which was printed on the cover of Library News January, 1945: "MAKE NO LITTLE PLANS: THEY HAVE NO MAGIC TO STIR MEN'S BLOOD..." It has been used again on this, and probable the last issue until a new editor takes over. By the time this issue is off the press the Board, in all probability, will have secured another Director, and a new editor will be in charge of Mississippi Library News.

This is to wish librarians, trustees and friends of libraries the very best for the future and to express appreciation for the interest, understanding and cooperation given to whatever progress may have been made during our years of working together. Without this cooperation and one-ness of purpose this progress would not have been made. And for the future may your plans be big; your vision and courage great and may you put Mississippi libraries right where they belong — AT THE TOP.

Not farewell, because it is not as though we will never meet again. The light touch of this little jingle may do just as well for the ending:

"Remember, please, when I am gone, 'Twas aspiration led me on. Tiddlely, Widdlely, Toodle - oo. All I want is to stay with you. But here I go. Good-Bye."

II. MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

I. Annual Convention

The Mississippi Library Association held the regular convention at Jackson October 22-23, 1954, at the Heidelberg Hotel. On Friday morning convention delegates and guests registered and viewed the exhibits. A total of 134 paid registrations, 16 guests, and 39 exhibitors made the grand total of 189, for the Registration Committee report made at the Saturday morning business meeting by the Chairman, Mattie Milner.

At 2 P.M. Friday, the convention opened with Mary Joan Finger, vice-president, presiding. The thirty-nine exhibitors were introduced by Mr. Harvey Mowrey, chairman of Exhibits Committee.

Mrs. Grace Stevenson, A.L.A. Associate Executive Secretary, spoke on "The Over All Picture of Adult Education in Libraries in the United States". She reviewed the history of adult education from 1924 to the present day, emphasizing the fact that adult education means the continuing education of the adult to help him take his place in society. She said the adult's interest in education is not new and referred to the popularity of the A.L.A. publication, in the early twenties, of the Reading With A Purpose series which sold over 850,000 copies. But she said there is new emphasis on methods and means of providing adult education and libraries have taken their place as one of the chief educational agencies not only in supplying such materials as books, films and records but in sponsoring forums, discussion groups, radio and T.V. programs. Mrs. Stevenson suggested the possibility in the future of having an adult education institute in connection with the annual library association meeting.

This talk was followed by a panel discussion and question period led by Mr. E. J. Yerby, Director of Extension, University of Mississippi, with the following panel members: Miss Earl Gaddis, State College, special assistant Home Demonstration Agent; Mrs. Carolyn Hendrick, President Mississippi P. T. A.; Miss Evelyn Day Mullen, Executive Secretary, Public Library Service Division, Montgomery, Alabama; Mrs. Lelia B. Clark, Director American Heritage Project on the staff of the Mississippi Library Commission.

The subject of the panel was, Library Service to Adult Groups. Dr. Yerby spoke of various agencies in the state that are promoting programs of adult education then asked each member of the panel to speak of library service to the group they were representing and to offer suggestions to librarians as to what they could do to be of more service.

Mrs. Hendrick expressed a need of P.T.A. members for better understanding of what libraries have to offer. Libraries should do more advertising, promotion, public relations — let the public know what they have and how to get it. Librarians might come down from their "ivory towers" and meet average people with a common, human approach. P.T.A. members need films, program materials and help in selecting and using these aids.

Mrs. Clark expressed somewhat the same opinion regarding group discussion as a method of educating adult and said that it is a device by which people learn, often times unconsciously and unintentially because it gives them an opportunity to participate and to exchange ideas and opinions with a background of authority in the reading materials furnished by the library. The American Heritage Project, with its plan of leadership training, has given a nucleus of trained discussion

leaders in the state which should assure us of a continuation of this type of educational program. She said discussion groups should be promoted by libraries though they may not be a part of the American Heritage Project. The press, radio, T. V., films and books offer much in the way of information, and sometimes confusion, and discussion helps to clarify and crystalize one's opinions. It is a method which any library can use. It is simple to organize and gives the library another opportunity for community service.

Miss Gaddis said that Home Demonstration Club members are encouraged to read and are given reading certificates for meeting certain reading requirements and that thousands of books are read through public libraries and from the Library Commission. She said that one of the difficulties is in directing these Club women to books that are worth while but not "high brow". Libraries should give reading guidance to people of all degrees of reading ability and make all people in their area feel that the library has something for them.

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Miss Mullen emphasized the service that small libraries can give and told something of such services in libraries in North Carolina and Alabama.

Questions from the floor, directed to the panel, completed a stimulating discussion of the topic.

The Second General Session opened at 7:30 P.M. in the Victory Room, with Mary Love, Elementary Supervisor, Jackson, presiding. It was Mississippi Author's night, and these Mississippi writers appeared on the panel: Katherine Bellaman, Louise Eskridge Crump, Alice Walworth Graham, Pat Smith, Jefferson Young and Anne C. Winston. Each author told something of his writing which reflected his own style. This was followed by questions from the audience. At the social hour after the meeting punch and cookies were served by six young student library assistants.

The Business Meeting opened at 9:30 Saturday; Manie Berry, president, presiding. The following reports from chairmen of standing committees were presented:

Registration: Mattie Milner — 189 delegates and guests.

- Membership: Mary Alice Hatchett Individual 313, Institutional 34, total 347.
- Standards and Planning: Mrs. Lura Currier. Work begun on standards for classifying public libraries, a yardstick by which libraries may measure themselves and have definite goals to reach. Committee recommendation that work be continued and completed.
- Federal Relations: Sue Coltharp. Lack of adequate public library facilities in U.S. brought to attention of U.S. Study Committee on Education. Library Services Bill to be re-introduced in 84th Congress as early as possible. Its passage may be decided by interest of people in the states.
- Adult Education: Mrs. C. C. Clark. Summary of adult education activities and projects carried on by libraries, including American Heritage Discussion Project and Library-Industry project.
- Awards: Hallie Eggleston (report made by Eleanor Harkins). Lifetime membership in MLA given to Elizabeth Robinson, first

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director of Mississippi Library Commission, and to Eunice Eley, present director, who has recently submitted her resignation.

Exhibits: Harvey Mowrey. Space was reserved for 32 exhibits.

Constitution and By-Laws; Elizabeth Jones. Constitutional amendments proposed by Committee and passed by Association:

- (1) All standing committees to serve for two years, their first year coinciding with the second year of the president and their second year with the first year of the succeeding president. (It was requested that the Constitution with amendments be printed in M.L.N. which will be in a later issue).
- (2) At the discretion of the Executive Board, committee members may be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in attending committee meetings.

Annabelle Koonce was chairman of Hospitality and Lura Currier of Publicity.

The Treasurer's report showed a balance on hand of \$2,339.30.

The nominating committee presented the name of Sybil Hanna as secretary-treasurer to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs. Claudia Landrum. By a unanimous vote she was elected.

New business included the motion that was passed, to allow \$250.00 for the president or another officer to use for expenses in attending out-of-state professional meetings where Mississippi should be represented. An additional \$100 per year was set aside for A. L. A. council representative to attend A. L. A. meetings.

The luncheon meeting at the Heidelberg Hotel roof had as the guest speaker Harry Clark, Executive Director, North Mississippi Development Association. Mr. Clark pointed his talk to the role of the library in aiding the community to bring industry to the people—by helping in surveys, by supplying book material for business and industrial people. He said that industrialists who may consider locating in the state are not only interested in the labor supply but also in the type of the community. They want a well-balanced community life, which includes good health, recreation and educational facilities. The library is a necessary part of this good community.

On Saturday afternoon section meetings were held, followed by a joint meeting for a report of each section. The following is a synopsis of section programs:

College Section

Mrs. Josephine Alexander, librarian of All Saints' College, presided over the College and University Section.

The program was a talk by Sykes Hartin, University librarian, on Opportunities for Library Training in Mississippi. Mr. Hartin based his talk on a questionnaire sent to eight schools that are offering training in library service: Blue Mountain, Delta State Teachers' College, Jackson College, Mississippi State Mississippi State College for Women, Tougaloo College, and the University. The questionnaires showed: Hours of instruction range from 4 quarter hours to 33 semester hours; three schools offer the equivalent of a major and four offer a minor in Library Science, credit given is on the undergraduate level

but in some instances can count as an elective on the graduate level, all schools except one are planned to meet Southern Association Standards; there is a lack of specific preparation for work in public libraries, which is at the time, the fastest developing area; training for negro librarians is inadequate; the necessity exists to understand the difference between the fifth-year "professional" librarian and the undergraduate major "professional" librarian; no program should be curtailed or abbreviated but a wider and more intensive use of instructional facilities should be made, with the eventual result that more librarians and better librarians will be filling positions in an expanding library system.

In the business meeting following the discussion on this topic Margaret Peebles, circulation librarian, State College, was elected chairman for the coming year.

School Section

Mary Joan Finger, Clarksdale, chairman, presided. Mrs. Iola Magee, Monticello, reported on the summer workshop held at Mississippi Southern and said that printed reports are available at Miss Koonce's office on request. Mary Love, Jackson, gave a report on the annual A. L. A. convention in Minneapolis. Guest speaker was, Evelyn Day Mullen, Executive Secretary Public Library Service Division, Montgomery, Alabama, who spoke on "The Relationship Between Public and School Libraries". She emphasized the need for close cooperation between librarians and suggested some methods of working together. She also spoke of the need for all librarians to secure budgets sufficient to supply the need for good books to combat the comic book craze.

There was a discussion of methods of getting more librarians to attend this annual School Librarian's Section meeting.

The chairman for the coming year will be elected next spring at the school section of the Mississippi Education Association meeting.

Public Libraries Section

Willie Dee Robbins, Natchez, was chairman of the panel discussion on Cooperation Between Libraries and the Library Commission. She was assisted by Elizabeth Jones, Grenada, Mrs. Kay Cooley, Library Commission, and Mrs. Ruby Hanks, librarian, Winn Parish, Louisiana.

Miss Robbins reported on a public library survey she had made regarding use of periodicals. Fifty-seven libraries were contacted, thirty-five responded. She found that most libraries keep periodicals that are indexed in Readers' Guide from 3-5 years. Some few have no definite policy. Only 6 libraries have them commercially bound. Those who subscribe for periodicals use them mostly for reference. She stated that she would like to continue this investigation and that her findings are available to anyone who would like to see them.

In the introduction of the topic Miss Robbins quoted from Gretchen Schenk's County and Regional Library Development, "Possibly the most hopeful improvement in strengthening local library service in the last twenty years has been the gradual emergence or rebirth of vigorous, potent state library leadership . . . The primary responsibility of the Commission has been to expand and improve public library service within their states." She said that Mississippi has taken its place among the states that have made great improvement in state extention services which provide state aid and leadership in an expanding library program; that libraries can feel the "pulse beat" of the reading public; they are in direct contact with local governing authorities and state legislature and

so have a great influence and responsibility for the reaction of these officials to libraries and their needs.

There was a discussion of the processes and methods of inter-library loan services between the Commission and libraries and between libraries themselves, with general agreement that the solution of these problems requires time, understanding and full cooperation from everyone. Making requests specific and returning books on time were two points emphasized in developing better inter-library loan service.

Miss Jones suggested that a good attitude for librarians to take is that of a teacher who, when she paid for lost books said, "Well, I've just bought myself some experience. Next time I will be more careful."

Mrs. Hanks and other panel members answered questions from the floor and Miss Hanks told of the system of library service between the Louisiana State Library and libraries of the state.

The nominating committee presented the name of Mrs. Lola Kell, Pascagoula, who was elected as the new chairman.

Library Trustees' Section

This was the initial meeting of the group of trustees from all sections of the state, representing thirteen libraries, who discussed the value of the organization of this group of citizens who are serving on library boards and who have the legal authority and responsibility for library leadership. Mrs. Percy Howard, Lake Cormorant, member of the board of the First Regional Library, was chairman of the meeting. Mrs. W. D. Reed, member of the Durant-Holmes County Library Board, acted as secretary.

Mrs. Howard asked Mrs. Eunice Eley to state the purpose of the meeting. Mrs. Eley said that the Commission and all librarians know the importance of having the support of interested lay leaders if libraries are to take their rightful place as educational agencies; that it has long been the desire of the Library Commission to have a trustee organization where members could meet to exchange ideas and take a more active part in the state library program. She said that the development of libraries depend on public interest and that all trustees should profit by knowing how others are erecting building, getting better budgets and all of the things that go into making good libraries. Before leaving the meeting Mrs. Eley asked those present to express their opinion on such an organization. Under the direction of the chairman there was discussion and decision to work out plans for a permanent trustees' organization as a section of the state library association. It was agreed that further details should be studied. Mrs. Mary Henley, member of the Biloxi Library Board, was elected chairman.

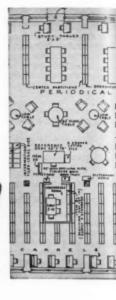
Those present for this meeting were: Mrs. Percy Howard; Mrs. W. D. Reed; Mrs. Sam Jones, Marks; Rev. W. F. Mansell, Vicksburg; Mrs. R. K. Van Kurin, Durant; Mrs. Sadye Hart, Jackson; Mrs. Mary Henley, Biloxi; Mrs. Boswell Stevens, Macon; Miss Orin Ford, Houston; Mr. Walter Watkins, Laurel; Mrs. J. W. Hudspeth, Cockrum; Mrs. Ray Williams, Senatobia; Mrs. S. F. McGee, Monticello; Mrs. Lucy Crittendon, Greenville.

Special Meetings

1. Adult Education Program

After the scheduled program Friday afternoon a short meeting was held to discuss and probably work out a practical solution to continuing the American Heritage program of adult discussions after Foundation





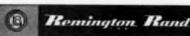
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funds are withdrawn, and also the coordination of all Adult education activities in the state. All librarians who have carried on the American Heritage program were invited and some were present. There were also representatives from volunteer service agencies and Mrs. Grace Stevenson and Mr. E. J. Yerby. Mrs. Eley stated that the Library Commission was in the last year as recipient of AH funds and asked for opinions and discussion of what the future might hold for a continued program and for other programs. Jeanne Broach spoke of the great value of the American Heritage project and said that some means must be found to carry it on. Lura Currier told of her experience with business and industrial men, of their need for services and their lack of understanding of services available. Mr. Yerby reviewed quite a long list of activities carried on by the University and told of plans to form a state Adult Education Council which would help to work out methods of coordination between agencies and the elimination of duplicating serices. It would work toward the locating of materials such as films, which are handled by several agencies with little general information as to their type, policy for use, etc. There were no definite conclusions reached as to procedures but general agreement that the education of adults is a responsibility of libraries and of some other educational agencies and that better, more effective results may be gained by the several agencies working together rather than in competition.

2. Mississippi Library News

On the invitation of Eunice Eley, Editor, the Editorial Staff, the Executive Committee, and a few others met to discuss possible changes in the printing and distribution of the News. Mrs. Eley showed bulletins from several other states and there was discussion of format, distribution, cost, etc. Sykes Hartin showed samples of different cover styles that he had worked out. It was agreed: that no changes should be made immediately and that suggested changes might be worked out later; that the out-of-state mailing list would include all agencies that want to receive the publication on an exchange basis and that it would be sent free to all library training agencies upon request; that all bills will be paid by the Library Association and if revenue received from advertisements does not cover cost of publication the remaining cost will be borne equally by the Association and the Commission, the cost to the Association not to exceed \$400 per year.

3. Inter-Library Loan Discussion

Following the reports from Sections, an informal discussion was led by Donald Thompson, State College, on policies and practices of inter-library loan. This was a continuation of the topic discussed in the public libraries meeting with special attention to library-loan services from State College. This subject was of great interest to the group and there were expressions of appreciation of services given by the College, particularly in the days when there was no other library extension agency, and the present services to the larger public libraries. Many suggestions were made and discussed. Mr. Thompson was asked to continue the study of the best methods to be adopted.

4. Audio-visual Demonstration

On Saturday afternoon, between the last meeting and the evening program Lura Currier demonstrated the use of the opaque projector, which is a simple and effective way of using easily obtained materials in illustrative talks and giving visual examples of points to be stressed. She also ran the library film—The Common Heritage, a film made in Tennessee which may be borrowed from the Library Commission.

Dinner Meeting

The Hospitality Committee was responsible for the plan to have guests draw a card, upon entering the hotel dining room, which would direct them to a place at one of the tables where a hostess had previously been assigned. This plan was a good mixer and provided an informal and festive atmosphere for this last delightful evening of the convention.

Manie Berry presided and presented Mrs. Myriam Meek, Branch librarian, Jackson, who introduced guests, with special attention to library trustees. In the name of the Association Miss Berry presented a gift to Eunice Eley with an expression of appreciation for her contribution to library development during her years as Director of the Library Commission.

The guest speaker was Mrs. Merlyn Moore who was introduced by Eunice Eley. Mrs. Moore, of Little Rock, is chairman of the Arkansas Library Commission and has won distinction in her state and in the nation for her service to the cause of libraries. She recently won the Trustees' Award given by the American Library Association to the outstanding trustee of the year.

Mrs. Moore's address was filled with hard-hitting challenges to librarians and to trustees and was spiced with sufficient humor to drive home some facts. She challenged librarians to give the necessary leadership and guidance to trustees. She said good libraries depend on well informed trustees with "horse sense". Some of the to-be-remembered statements in her forceful talk are: "No growing thing can remain static. The only permanent thing is change. Trustees must enjoy their job. Never discount the power of your own ideas."

This was the end of a most successful convention. The decision of time and place of the next meeting rests with the Executive Board. Invitations were received from Biloxi and Jackson.

2. Membership

(1954 members not previously listed)

Anderson, Mary Alice, Lbn., Belhaven College
Anderson, Maude, Circ. Lbn., Miss. Southern College
Bass, Corinne, Lbn., Law School Library, University
Bates, Mrs. L. J. Lbn., Picayune H. S.
Beeman, Katie, Lbn., H. S. Philadelphia
Betts, Mrs. Frances M., Medical Lbn., Street Clinic, Vicksburg
Bryson, Lorayn, Lbn., Jr. High Library, Tupelo
Calhoun, Lola, Lbn., Enochs Jr. High Sch., Jackson
Caudill, John, Lbn., Washington High Sch.
Chamberlain, Clara, Lbn., Natchez High Sch.
Clark, Mrs. C. C., Dir. Am. Heritage Project, Miss. Library Commission
Cox, Bernice, H. S. Lbn., Merigold
Crittenden, Mrs. O. B., Ass't Lbn., Wm. Alex. Percy Mem. Library,
Greenville
Doster, Mrs. Bessie G., Durant, Trustee, Mississippi Library Commission

Flinn, Mrs. L. R., Lbn., Wm. Alex. Percy Mem. Library, Greenville Gatchel, Mrs. Kenneth Porter, Acting Head L. S. Dept. MSCW Gatewood, Mrs. Olive J., Lbn. Clifton H. S., Hillsboro Ivy, Earle Alma, Order Lbn., Miss. State College

Jones, Daphine, H. S. Lbn., Brandon
Jones-Williams, Miss Marion, Ass't Lbn., MSCW
McLeod, Louise, Lbn., Moss Point H. S.
Maestri, Helen, L. S. Summer Sch. Teacher, Miss. Southern
Magers, Mrs. H. M., Teacher-Lbn., Morgan City
Mills, Annie Elizabeth, Ass't. Lbn., University
Nash, Mrs. E. B., West Point, Trustee, Mississippi Library Commission
Parker, Glynal, Lbn., East Jr. High Sch., Gulfport
Pettyjohn, Mrs. Ruby, Lbn., Quitman County Library, Marks
Pichard, Mrs. H. G., Beat Four Vocational Sch., Meridian
Pylant, Yuba, H. S. Lbn., Purvis
Rea, Katherine, Lbn., Bailey Jr. High Sch., Jackson
Rice, Nannie H., Ref. Lbn., State College
Rowan, Mrs. Leon, Branch Lbn., Baldwyn
Samuels, Mrs. Stella S., Ass't Cir. Lbn., University
Smith, Mrs. W. F., Lbn., Union County Library, New Albany
Sowell, Mrs. Reba Turner, Chief Lbn., V. A. Center, Biloxi
Spiva, Madge, Ass't Lbn., Millsaps College
Swearingen, Bethany C., Ass't Lbn., Millsaps College
Tachett, Santa, Teacher-Lbn., Tchula
Turner, Mrs. Emmie, Elem. School Lib., Hattiesburg
Willis, Mrs. James R., Lbn., Bruce High Sch.

Institutions

Institutions

Beat Four Vocational School, Route 7, Meridian Carnegie-Millsaps Library, Jackson
Miss. State College for Women, Library Science Dept., Columbus
Street Clinic, Medical Library, Vicksburg Tchula School Library William Alexander Percy Memorial Library, Greenville

III. REGIONAL MEETINGS

1. Southeastern

The biennial meetings of both the Southeastern Library Association and the Southwestern Library Association were held this fall with the former in Atlanta and the latter in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Mississippi librarians participated on both these programs.

At Southeastern one of the general session meetings was based on the South's new industrial development with a Mississippi citizen, Harry Clark of West Point, being one of the speakers. Mr. Clark was peculiarly fitted to discuss industrial growth in the Southeast since he is president of the Southern Regional Council for Industrial Development, an areawide organization embracing the same states as those of the Southeastern Library Association. Other speakers on this program discussed the various phases of research that are a necessary and vital preface to any development of the industrial potential of a region.

As chairman of the County and Regional Librarians' Section of SELA, it was Lura Currier's responsibility to have a program for that section. Emphasizing the current interest in adult education activities in libraries, the program featured two outstanding Mississippians along with Margaret Johnston, a practicing librarian from Haywood County Library in North Carolina. Mrs. A. L. Hendrick, state president of the Mississippi Congress of Parents and Teachers, discussed the needs of the worker with organized groups for a vigorous and active program of informal adult education. Mrs. C. C. Clark, director of the American Heritage Program in the state, took librarians to task for not telling their story effectively enough, as she so aptly put it, "to the people in the bleachers." Admitting that she now stood with one foot in the door of professional librarianship and one foot out, Mrs. Clark could see the library's problem from both sides and said that there seemed to be an increasing awareness among librarians for providing a lifelong educational program and a need for even more cooperation with other groups. Margaret Johnson reported on her experiences and showed samples of materials collected as she visited, via a travel grant from the Fund for Adult Education, in libraries from Coast to Coast.

The Children and Young People's Section honored a Mississippi librarian by their election of Sybil Hanna as their section chairman for the coming two year term. Miss Hanna is the director of children's work in the Jackson Public Library. A recent newcomer to the state she has taken a responsible part in all professional activities. Mississippians attending Southeastern were particularly proud of Miss Hanna's election since she is one of the few librarians in the state engaged exclusively in full time work with children and young people.

Other Mississippi librarians in attendance at Atlanta included Robert Bullen from State College; Ida Bullen, director of bookmobile service with the Tombigbee Regional Library; Jean Gunter, librarian of the State Welfare Department; Jeanne Broach, Meridian Public Library; Anna Roberts, librarian and Mary Jo Magee, assistant, Mississippi Southern College; Frances French, reference librarian from the Jackson Public Library; and Mildred Davis, periodicals librarian at the University of Mississippi.



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2. Southwestern

A most interesting experiment in conference program planning took place at Southwestern when it met November 3, 4, 5 at Albuquerque. All the meetings were general sessions with the section interests and state groups being handled through luncheons or breakfasts, or however leaders chose to get their people together. A statement from the SWLA NEWSLETTER is an excellent summary of the thinking behind this innovation on program making. "The reasoning behind this kind of programming is that the conflict of interests in simultaneous meetings presents a choice often difficult to resolve; and that librarians tend too much to become only a certain kind of librarian, not interested in other phases of librarianship beyond their special interests, unaware of the cross currents of public library work with special library work. It is believed that a regional meeting devoted to general topics of interest to all southwestern librarians will be worth a try." Anyone who has ever split his personality, and almost split his physical being, trying to get to three or four interesting meetings at the same time - and ending up a mass of frustration, will appreciate the thinking behind this provocative statement. The statement that appeared on Southwestern's program hopefully read: "There are no conflicts on this program."

And so there weren't. Apparently, it did the public librarians no harm to hear the excellent reports of bookfairs and of regional writing for children that the Children and Young People's Section gave in conjunction with the school librarians. And most certainly the College and Reference panel which discussed teaching the use of libraries as a means for library promotion and for recruitment purposes was of pertinent interest to everyone present.

The Public Librarians' Program was an address by Lura Currier, of the Mississippi Library Commission staff, entitled: "Don't Get a Horse." This subject was developed along the lines of urging that a horse-and-buggy-type program, without faith in new methods and new techniques and new organizational structures, would not be sufficient for the fast growing industrial South and Southwest. Supporting her remarks by figures to show the tremendous growth in the region, the speaker asserted that there would always be those who stood around and declared pessimistically that such and such wouldn't work, but that those of little faith would have to be by-passed if a library program were to be developed that would fit the economic growth of the area, and that to sell such a program would necessitate reducing it to the vernacular and taking it to groups other than librarians for their comprehension and support.

IV. AMERICAN HERITAGE

by

Mrs. C. C. Clark

There is something sad about a "last time". Such was the case at the October American Heritage Leadership Training, for it was a "last" time as far as ALA sponsorship is concerned. It is certain, however, that the influence of the training sessions will never end.

There are in Mississippi approximately 90 leaders and 23 librarians who have participated in the training sessions. Librarians should see to it that this potential ability is not lost to communities. No matter how curtailed the program may of necessity become, there will remain this

great reservoir of leadership in Mississippi as a result of the American Heritage Project.

While the local discussion groups continue to follow the same pattern as local library service, the training sessions at the Library Commission have been interracial. 15 of the approximately 90 leaders trained are negroes. This experience has been a significant one. Time after time members of the training groups have expressed appreciation for their first interracial experience. They felt it was a demonstration "to ourselves of the reality of the heritage we discussed." As one trainee said it, "... this is the method by which we will solve our problems stemming from our differences ... people of integrity sitting down together in small groups and without fear or tension ferreting out the real issues that face us."

Mr. R. E. Dooley, ALA consultant and field worker for Mississippi, has lead the training sessions and has done more than the job he was employed to do. He, "was an example of calm objectivity. His patience and general courtesy, his deep interest, his friendly critical attitude toward everyone has inspired me to want to be like him", said one leader. Over and over this expression of personal appreciation of Mr. Dooley as the trainer has been expressed. Such leadership enabled many to understand the difference between intelligent search for truth, and a statement of preconceived prejudice. "He is understanding, kind and intelligent," sums up the trainee's attitude toward Mr. Dooley, the trainer.

What is the training session like? It includes ten hours of instruction in the best discussion techniques and actual leader practice. What does the trainee think of it? Let a few speak for themselves:

"A point I should like to express is the genuine cordiality extended to all of us. In my opinion that factor contributed much to the success of the training. It is an element all too often lacking in such meetings. I realize that it is entirely possible that those responsible for the planning and execution of the sessions may not have deliberately included this catalytic element; it may be characteristic of all the meetings. Whatever the source; whatever the motivation, it works and works well. I think it is a factor deserving high praise."

"I cannot say enough for the value of the technique used at the training. Each participant was given opportunity and urged to express himself fully . . . this was a demonstration of the democratic procedure. This was done without fear of censure. The leader directed us in weaving all our feelings, prejudices and valuable experiences into a pattern of democratic action."

A leader to his librarian, "I wouldn't have taken a month's salary for the experience." The librarian's comment, "That's more enthusiasm than I have!"

And this last one from a negro leader, "The joy of acceptance as another human being was priceless. I was never 'left out' nor was I 'fenced in'. There was no 'leaning backwards' to let me in. I took my chance along with the rest and 'fought a good fight'."

Discussion groups must go on in Mississippi. The librarians who were imaginative and aggressive enough to secure for our state the American Heritage Project will find a way. On February 9 the American Heritage "clan" will gather in Jackson and find that way — of that we are sure.

V. KNOW - YOUR - LIBRARY Sponsored by FEDERATED CLUBS

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Information has been received from the president of ALA, from the Public Libraries Division and from the Chairman of the General Federation of Women's Clubs that the Federation has designated November, 1954 as KNOW-YOUR-LIBRARY month, which will be observed again in November, 1955. Mrs. Robert F. Herring, Libby, Montana, a professional librarian, is chairman of GFWC Libraries Division. Mrs. Herring says, "November, 1954 will be a 'kick-off' in a two-year program of public libraries and clubs working together for better libraries. The 'Know and Grow' libraries program is divided into three sections: 1. Know and grow through personal and club use of libraries: 2. Know your library and help it grow; 3. Know how to get a good library if you have none." The Library Commission staff has read the above announcement with the greatest interest and believes it offers a fine opportunity, during this two-year period for clubs to become better acquainted with libraries and for libraries to learn more about opportunities for serving clubs — of finding ways and means of doing so. A letter from Mrs. J. R. Patterson, state president of Mississippi Federated Clubs, endorses the plan and offers some fine suggestions for carrying out the purposes of the program.

Many libraries in the state have begun a closer cooperation with clubs and have had open house, book reviews, book talks and special programs to observe the occasion in November, 1954. Because this is a two-year program, and we think not confined altogether to November, it will provide a long time program of cooperation between clubs and their public libraries. Because the idea is promoted by the General and State federations it offers a challenge to libraries to offer better services to this organized group through program planning, discussion meetings and the provision of more and better library materials such as books and films, and perhaps to assist in securing speakers for special occasions. It also offers an opportunity for enlisting the help and influence of this group in getting better library facilities. A good many of our public libraries were started by clubs and the talents and interest of these women can mean much in improving library services in the state.

VI. NEWS FROM LIBRARIES

1. School - Reported by Sue Coltharp

School is under way, and our libraries are again buzzing with activity. There are more and more meetings for librarians and student assistants to attend. From the reports of regional groups over the state there appears an ever increasing interest in the student assistants' meetings.

Region VII met with Miss Mae Rogers, Pascagoula, as president of the librarians' group.

Region XIV met at Port Gibson High School, with Miss Clara Chamberlain of Natchez as president of the librarians' group.

There has been a regional meeting at Carr Central High School, Vicksburg, for that area.

The Delta Library Assistants' Club met in Merigold in September. The guest consultant was Mrs. Frances N. Cheyney, Associate Professor of Library Science, Peabody College. Mrs. Cheyney used as her topic

for the students' meeting, "Travel With Books", and for the Librarians' meeting, "Can You Find It?" The travel talk was about Mrs. Cheyney's work with students at Keiro University in Japan. The librarians were particularly interested in hearing one of such authority in the field of reference and bibliography.

Miss Frances Murry, librarian, Southwest Junior College, Summit, reported a very interesting meeting of Region X, held at their library October 2. Schools represented were Crystal Springs, Prentiss, Summit, W. Lincoln, Brookhaven, Magee, Magnolia, Fernwood, Heucks Retreat, and Southwest. The library was the scene of an art exhibit, a book display and new signs denoting the various classifications of books. At the students' meeting there was a skit, "It Happens in the Library", by Southwest, and a contest of matching book titles with book characters, by students from Brookhaven. At the librarians' meeting Mrs. S. F. Magee, librarian from Monticello, presented a list of basic reference books that was compiled at the workshop held at Mississippi Southern this summer. Officers elected for the librarians were: Miss Frances Murry, president; Mrs. W. P. Evans, Hueck's Retreat, secretary. The student officers elected were: Barbara Crossno, Monticello, president; Evelyn Brister, Southwest, vice-president; Dorothy Kemp, Crystal Springs, secretary; Mrs. R. C. Gallaspy, sponsor.

The Second State Meeting of Student Library Assistants was held at Central High School, Jackson, on November 6. There was a most interesting program planned for the day, consisting of discussion groups on such subjects as Reference, Mississippi Materials, Mending, Posters, Library Clubs, Vertical File, Future Librarians. The schools responsible for these subjects were, Forest Hill High School, Boyle High School, West Tallahatchie High School, Central High School, Columbia High School, Lee High School, Columbus, Enochs Junior High School, Jackson, Wiggins High School, Gardiner High School, Laurel, New Albany High School, Newton High School, Southwest Junior College, Clarksdale High School, and Monticello High School. At the student assistants' business meeting the following officers were elected: Sylvia Golman, Central High School, Jackson, president; Betty Lynn Jones, Hollandale, vicepresident; Dorothy Kemp, Crystal Springs, secretary; Joyce Houston, Yazoo City, treasurer; Beverly Mallett, Clarksdale, reporter.

The librarians who attended this meeting also had a very interesting program. During the morning session there was a panel on "The Library and Social Studies", with Miss Margaret Hutchinson, Jackson Public Schools, as moderator. The other panel members were, Mr. R. B. Layton, Director of Curriculum, Jackson Public Schools; Miss Margaret Hester, Social studies teacher of Lexington; Mrs. Jennie Beth Clark, librarian of Columbia High School; Miss Clara Watson, Social Studies teacher of Lexington; and Miss Mattie Mae Viverett, librarian of Jones County Junior College. In the afternoon Mrs. Georgette Hall, librarian of Bay St. Louis High School, talked about writing her recent book, "The House on Rampart Street."

The constitution was adopted, and an award for library activities as shown through a scrapbook was announced. This award is to be a loving cup, called the Donald Dana Award in honor of the first president of the Student Library Assistants. Donald Dana, Jr., is from Columbia High School.

A big event, a Book Fair, was held at West Point, November 8-11, in the High School Gym, sponsored by the P. T. A. and Tombigbee Regional Library. Authors present were: Mr. Tom Person, Mr. Pat Smith, Miss

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Charlie May Simon, and Mrs. Annabel Stephens. Other distinguished guests were: Mrs. Eugenia Summer, Art Departments, M. S. C. W., who spoke on "Art in the Elementary School"; Dr. George Carbone, History Department, University, who spoke on "American Foreign Policy—Where Are We Going?"; Mrs. Maye Ellis, Franklin Academy, Columbus, "Story Telling Using Visual Aids". Other items on the program were "Early English Ballads", presented by Mrs. Vic Metts and her Senior Students, Houston; "The Little Book Train", by Mrs. Jack Dexter and her first grade students, West Side Elementary School, West Point; "A Brief Visit to Storybook Land", by Mrs. Mary Ann Sowell and her students, West Point; "An Old Fashioned Friday Afternoon at School", by Mrs. John A. McLean, Director.

All Saints Episcopal Junior College, Vicksburg, has started the year with great plans for the library. They added 600 new books last year, and plan to add 1000 more this year. They have added two new wall shelves within the library itself, and new shelving space from a reclaimed closet just outside the library, which will be used as a magazine room. Inter-library loan service is maintained with the Vicksburg Public library. Members of the students' Library Committee were in charge of the library while the librarian attended the annual state library convention.

Booneville High School was host to the student assistants and librarians in their region, November 13. The theme of their meeting, according to Mrs. Ruth G. Martin, librarian, Booneville Public Schools, was "Mississippi Authors and Writings about Mississippi". One of the main attractions was an exhibit on Mississippi History Materials. Miss Lorayn Bryson, librarian, Milam Junior High School, and Mrs. L. J. Dunkin, librarian, Lawhon Junior High, Tupelo had charge of that exhibit. The Booneville High School Library had a literary map of Mississippi with a display of books by Mississippi authors. The main speaker for their program was Claude Gentry, author of "Private John Allen", whose subject was "Reading, and Art of Communication". Another special event for the occasion was a showing of the color picture, "Shiloh-Portrait of a Battle", brought to Booneville by Ira B. Lykes, superintendent of Shiloh Park, who painted many of the color scenes and made many of the Kodachrome pictures.

Some of the changes in school libraries this fall are: Mrs. Nora Gresham, of Mendenhall last year, is at Belzoni this year; Mrs. Kent Flowers McFarland has come back into the profession to take the place in Hattiesburg High of Ruthlyn Austin, who has gone to Germany with government library service; Miss Ena Kay Hudson is librarian in the new East Junior High School, Gulfport. Stephen F. Clark, librarian, West Tallahatchie High School, received his M. A. in L. S. degree last summer at Peabody College.

The Mississippi Accrediting Commission has approved standards for junior high schools operated as a separate unit. The same qualifications for librarian is required for junior high as for high school.

In addition to attendance at many of the meetings that we have reported, our busy school library supervisor, Annabelle Koonce, talked on, The Place of the Library in the School at the annual diocesan teachers' meeting at Sacred Heart Academy, Biloxi, October 27, and at St. Joseph's Academy, Jackson, October 29. Miss Koonce plans a late fall vacation which will take her on a motor tour of Florida, with a possible hop over to Cuba for a few days.

2. College - Reported by Virginia C. Robinson

Mississippi State College:

The staff is compiling a 1953-54 supplement to "Bibliography of Theses Written at Mississippi State College, 1901-1952. Copies are available upon request.

Recent talks by staff members included: A book talk on "Natchez-Fiction and Fact", by Willie D. Halsell to Hickashaba Chapter D. A. R., Starkville; "The Mississippi Room" by Miss Halsell and Donald Thompson at the Y. M. C. A. Luncheon Club; "Patterns of Life in Mississippi as Shown by Mississippi Writers, 1953-54", by Margarete Peebles, to the Woman's Club, Sturgis, and to the Pilot Club, Starkville.

Donald Thompson is continuing as Business Manager of the Southeastern Librarian, the publication of SELA, and of the Mississippi Library News.

The Circulation Department is trying out colored cards for overdues; first, blue ("Just a reminder"); second, gray ("Did you forget?"); third, green ("Ready and waiting").

Mrs. Margaret Nation, M. S. C. W. and Florida State University graduate, is now assistant Reference librarian.

Mary Holmes Junior College:

Margaret Federkiewich is on leave to complete her work at George Peabody College Library School. Margaret E. Hill is acting librarian.

Mississippi Southern College:

Nettie G. Dillard, formerly of Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn., is the new head of the Reference Department. She is a graduate of Tennessee College, Murfreesboro, Tenn., and of George Peabody College Library School.

Elizabeth Vardaman is head of the Periodicals Department.

Delta State Teachers College:

A new wing for the Roberts Memorial Library will be constructed at a cost of \$250,000. Floor space will be increased fifty per cent and book capacity from 30,000 to 75,000. The whole building will be refurnished, renovated, and air-conditioned.

The National High School Photography Awards Exhibit sponsored by the National Scholastic Press Association and the Eastman Kodac Company was featured November 12-22.

Miss Pattie Sue Travis and Miss Peggy Perry, student assistants, attended the second annual meeting of the Student Assistants Club in Jackson. Miss Mabel Brister, cataloger, discussed library science courses with potential students and Miss Eleanor Harkins represented the Recruitment Committee of the M. L. A. Materials on librarianship are available for loan in relation to career day projects. The librarian teaches three lessons on the use of the library as a part of the Dean of Women's orientation course during the Fall Quarter.

The library sponsored discussion group is a part of the American Heritage Project of the Mississippi Library Commission this year. The 18 members represent faculty, students, and town. Mr. P. G. Hogan, of the English Department serves as discussion leader.

Book Week exhibits were arranged by members of the Library Science classes taught by Miss Mabel Brister, Cataloger on the library staff. In carrying out the theme, "Let's Read", the emphasis was on books which would appeal to college students.

Mississippi State College for Women:

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n as ie Miss Ann Gaines, graduate of M. S. C. W. and of Columbia University School of Library Service, is the new head of the Serials Department.

Miss Lucille Miller, director of the Tombigbee Regional Library, West Point, was the guest speaker for Beta Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha on November 10th. The Library Science fraternity has 48 members this year who are prospective librarians. Miss Mary Jane Weaver, president of Beta chapter, was its representative at the October M. L. A. meeting.

The Library Science Department is compiling a bibliography of Mississippi authors, including past and present writers born in Mississippi and writers who have moved to Mississippi and established a permanent home in the state. Name, address, complete list of works with date of publication will be included for each author. It is requested that all interested librarians send names of writers in their vicinity to Mrs. Kenneth Gatchell, Acting Head, Library Science Department, M. S. C. W., Columbus, Miss.

The series of exhibitions on faculty hobbies opened with a display of ancient coins, Pompeian bronzes, Roman lamps, and a pottery jar from Cyprus dated 900 B.C., all collected by Dr. George R. Monks, of the history department during Mediterranean travels.

Royal Doulton figurines representing Dickens' characters were loaned for book display by Beta Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha and the Library Science Club who are making a complete collection for the college. Beautiful editions of Dickens' works from the Library Science Department's collection were also on display.

Library circulation was increased during book week by assembling tempting groups of books with the caption "Read These".

A part of the Reading Lounge has been designated for faculty use. Here all the new books ordered by departments are placed for a time. Students also enjoy dipping into the new books on a wide range of subjects.

Clarke Memorial College:

Mr. Thomas E. Lee, librarian, reports emphasis on bulletin boards for library promotion. Subjects included are news, pictures, periodicals, books, holidays, seasons, months, and quotations from famous authors. Aaron Lewis is assistant librarian.

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Millsaps College:

Bethany Swearingen, librarian, will be in New York City for two or three months completing work on her Master's thesis in English. En route she visited several college libraries in search of ideas for decorating and furnishing the new Millsaps library, now under construction.

The library is located temporarily in the auditorium of Murrah Hall. The reading room, formerly a student lounge, is ornamented by a display of art work done under the direction of Mr. Karl Wolfe, art instructor.

Tougaloo College:

Mrs. Hazel S. Moore, assistant librarian, is now completing her M. S. thesis entitled, "An Evaluative Study of the Eastman Library of Tougaloo College".

Book week programs included: A lecture and demonstration on Visual Aids, by Dr. Stovall, Director of Visual Aids in Mississippi; a dramatic skit, "Design for Reading"; and a lecture by Mrs. Ruby Stutts Lyells, Director of Library Service for Negroes in the public library system, Jackson.

Holmes Junior College:

Mrs. Billie Montague, librarian, reports that her library is greatly improved because it is no longer in the "study hall" area. An unusually large high school enrollment caused the removal of most of the study hall to another location, making a much improved and more pleasant library situation.

3. Special - Reported by Martha Lang

Keesler Air Force Base Library

Mrs. Ruth D. White, librarian at Keesler Air Force Base Library, reports that library services have greatly expanded since she became librarian in October, 1948. They now boast a main Base Library and three branches, Technical, Hospital, and a Triangle branch. The book collection has grown from 16,375 volumes to approximately 32,000 volumes.

The library won the John Cotton Dana Publicity Contest last May in the Scrapbook Contest. This contest is Air Force wide. Congratulations to Mrs. White and the Keesler Air Force Base.

Two professional librarians have recently been added to the staff. They are Miss Beth Love, and Mrs. Edith Everett. Both Mrs. Everett and Miss Love formerly were with the Gulfport Carnegie-Harrison County Library.

Welfare Department Library

Jean Gunter attended the Southeastern Conference of the American Public Welfare Association in Biloxi October 6th through the 8th, just after returning from the Southeastern Library Association meeting in Atlanta. She reports that an article on libraries is to appear in each monthly issue of the "WELFARE BRIEF", a release of the State Department of Public Welfare. Public libraries will be on the mailing list so that they may be informed of the new books being added in the Welfare Library and be able to work closely with county welfare personnel in giving library service.

Lauren Rogers Memorial Library and Museum

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During the year a beautifully decorated new reading room was opened. The substantial library income from endowment is supplemented by small appropriations from the city and county which makes it possible for this library to serve as a center of the cultural and artistic life of the city.

State Department of Archives and History News

Since the two main purposes of this Department are, (1) the custody and care of historical materials of Mississippi, and (2) the diffusion of knowledge, we are happy to report a very important acquisition.

"One of the finest and most valuable accessions ever received by the Mississippi State Department of Archives and History is a collection of twenty-four rolls of microfilm of the Spanish Records which are in the custody of the office of the Chancery Clerk of Adams County, Natchez, Mississippi. This microfilm, which contains 14,078 exposures, was contracted for by the National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of Mississippi and was made by the Microfilm Company of Louisiana, New Orleans, at a cost of \$844.68. The entire collection of microfilm was then generously given to the Department of Archives and History.

"The Spanish Records in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Adams County are the records which were produced during the occupation of the Natchez District by Spain. On September 21, 1779, the British post of Baton Rouge was surrendered to an attacking Spanish force, and the surrender included Fort Panmure and the entire Natchez District. The region was not evacuated by Spain until March 31, 1798.

"The Spanish Records are invaluable for any type of research in Mississippi history for the period from 1781- to 1798. They probably contain in one place or another information concerning practically every inhabitant of the Natchez District during the period of Spanish occupation. A casual investigation shows that the collection contains bonds, records of sales of real and personal property, certificates, petitions, inventories of estates, affidavits, memorials, agreements, depositions, wills, records of law suits, and numerous other documents." From a Preliminary Report on the Microfilm of the Spanish Records, by William D. McCain. 10 September 1954.

4. Public - Reported by Mattie Milner

Activities of the Ada Sessions Fant Memorial Library, Macon, scheduled for November included cooperation with the Macon Elementary School in presenting an assembly program and the sponsoring of a book review to be followed by a silver tea in the library. The Library Commission bookmobile and librarian were there to help with these activities. This year the club women of the county have taken every advantage of the services of the library. Two of the clubs held their program committee meetings in the library while preparing their yearbooks. October 2, a portrait of the late Mrs. Fant, painted in Austria by Hildegarde de Sora Troy, was presented to the library in an impressive ceremony with her children, grandchildren, and many other relatives and friends present. Mrs. Fant was for many years the moving spirit of the county library, and it is quite fitting that her memory should be so honored.

Margaret Guthrie, Port Gibson, says that of the twenty-four boys and girls who joined the Vacation Reading Club ten read the fifteen books required for a diploma. As the P.T.A. program chairman has

asked the members to take part in the charades at the November meeting, which falls on Tuesday of Book Week, they are busily engaged in contriving costumes for Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Captain Kidd, and others. The librarian is greatly encouraged by the interest being shown in the Sheakespeare discussion group.

In observance of Book Week and Know-Your-Library-Week, the Durant Woman's Club was hostess for an open house at the Holmes County Library, Durant. Mrs. Ross Rhyne, Jr., librarian, says that patrons from all over the county visited the library and became better acquainted with its facilities and services.

Mrs. Frances Davis Miller has been employed as library assistant at the Gulfport Public Library.

Jim Housel, director of the First Regional Library, writes that the Hernando branch has officially been named the Amma Gray Horn Memorial Branch Library to commemorate the memory of Mrs. Horn who was instrumental in helping the DeSoto County Library get started. Then, in August Lafayette County had a CLM picnic at the community house in Oxford with about 25 people from all over the county in attendance.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Mrs. J. W. Evans, Jeff Davis County librarian, who was injured in an automobile accident in October. The news from Dorothy Hayes, Greenwood-Leflore County librarian, is good. After a long illness she is back on the job working as hard as ever. Congratulations to the former Lucretia Francis Williams, who was a member of the Commission staff, on the birth of a daughter, Laura Ellen.

Recently, in cooperation with the town's stress on industry, the Evans Memorial Library, Aberdeen, placed at the new trouser plant, printed library invitations to visit the library and use its services. Lucille Peacock, the librarian, compiled a story of the town's earliest activities which was printed in the local newspaper.

Willie Dee Robbins, Natchez, writes that Miss Katrina Perrault, adult assistant, retired July 1, after many years of faithful service. Miss Perrault had made a place for herself on the staff especially for her knowledge of Natchez history. Miss Fay Lott, whose home is in Jackson, was appointed circulation librarian effective August 1. She received a degree from M. S. C. W. last spring with a major in Library Science.

The Tallahatchie County Library, Charleston, is taking on a new look. Sara Dickson says that they have rearranged the furniture to give more wall space, and the walls are to be painted. In addition, new shelves are being built. An added attraction to the library is the display of flowers provided by the Town and Country Garden Club, with a member of the club making an arrangement each week. Approximately 400 people visit the library each week, and it is hoped that these arrangements will give them a greater appreciation of flowers and inspire them to read the many good books on gardening and flower arrangements found on the library shelves. Then, beginning in November there will be a story hour for the children on Saturday morning. Sara also writes that the bookmobile circulation has reached a new high: 15,331 for the year which is over 4000 more than last year.

The Rosedale-Bolivar County Library looks most attractive with its fresh coat of paint. Mrs. Rosa Belle Shelby has reason to be proud of it. Incidently, she had a pleasant experience when many of her friends gave her a surprise birthday party in the library.

Miss Frances Gregory, teacher-librarian at Saltillo, was recently pointed out by the Lee County Library in a special feature article in the

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Tupelo Daily Journal as a person who uses the library to the fullest advantage. Not only does she use the services of the bookmobile but she also makes frequent visits to the library to check stacks of books on subjects ranging from Aardvark to Sworkin for her students. The big thing with the library now is Book Week, which will also be Know-Your-Library Week. Everyone in Tupelo and Lee County has been issued an invitation to visit the Lee County Library during the week of November 15-22. Members of the Federated Clubs are cooperating as a "kick-off" to the two-year "Know and Grow" program of public libraries and clubs working together. The week's activities include an Art Exhibit, featuring works of Tupeloans and Lee Countians; storytelling, two radio programs; awarding of reading certificates to Home Demonstration Club women; open house at the A. M. Strange negro branch; and book reviews. The clubs have requested all of their members to visit the library during the week; they have also asked each member who is not a registered borrower to become one during this week.

The Clarksdale Public Library began a series of monthly educational film showings in October. Anona Jenkins, librarian, writes that Clarksdale is the first city in the state to offer this library film review in cooperation with the Film Council of America. Community leaders, organizational program planners, and other film users will have the opportunity to preview films in such categories as international relations, health and safety, child development, political education, religion and ethics, natural and applied sciences, economic education, the humanities, marriage and the family, biography, history, and travel. The library has had the annual Coahoma County Arts and Crafts exhibit with one hundred and eighty-one articles, the work of sixty-five artists and craftsmen, on display. The exhibit is sponsored by the Clarksdale Women's Club and is open to residents and former residents of the county.

VII. STATE REPRESENTATIVE ELECTED ON SELA BOARD

By a vote of the Mississippi members of the Southeastern Library Association Annabelle Koonce was elected to represent the state on the Executive Board of Southeastern. She takes the place of Donald Thompson who has served on the Board several years and whose time expired recently.

VIII. THE WELCOME MAT

There's hardly time to brush off the WELCOME mat between visitors at the Library Commission. And that is good! Through this valuable exchange of ideas a great deal can be accomplished in sharpening up procedures and processes, as well as in measuring ones own activities against those things being done in other states and countries.

Recently Mississippi libraries have been enriched by three visitors to the Library Commission and to other spots in the state in addition to the several that were brought in as part of the Association's program. Preparations are being made for a fourth one, too. (The Dooleys with American Heritage have been back twice this Fall but they can no longer lay claim to the title of "visitors". Rather, they are just back "home".)

Ruth Warncke came to the First American Heritage Training session directly from her position as director of the Kent County Library, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Soon she will take up new duties as national director of the American Heritage Project. In addition to making a real contribution to the training sessions by giving a keen analysis of the session she brought a wealth of experience as a leader of adult educational activities. Miss Warncke has served several years as chairman of the American

Library Association's Board of Adult Education, a policy making group from which has stemmed all of the accelerated interest in adult education programs and activities in libraries throughout the country. This being her first visit to Mississippi she was eager to see more of the state than just the concentrated time spent in the training sessions. Tight scheduling left only one afternoon, so Elenora Gralow and Lura Currier took her on a flying trip to Vicksburg and Port Gibson to give her, at her request, some of the flavor of the real, old South. Among the souvenirs that she was able to snatch as she ran from one interesting spot on the river to another was a Confederate flag. Upon returning to Michigan she reports that one member of her staff who had migrated from North Carolina recognized it immediately and let out what the staff member later identified as a Rebel yell.

Dr. Herbert Goldhor, director of the Evansville, Indiana, Public Library received a travel grant from the Fund For Adult Education with which he was to make an itinerary for viewing adult educational activities in libraries. He explains his two-day visit in Mississippi this way: "There were some places I wanted to go very much; there were some places that ALA officials wanted me to go. I knew no reason for coming to Mississippi but in Chicago they said: 'You must visit Mississippi'. Now I know what they meant!" During his stay here he was able to visit the state Legislature in session, to have dinner and a long evening's talk with some members of the Legislature. Long discussions with Mrs. Clark gave him insight into Mississippi's Heritage Program. A visit to the headquarters of the Capital Regional Library at Raymond as well as to some of its branches let him see the inside workings of the larger units of service in operation in the state. He was interested in details of the Library-Industry project and stated that his library was beginning a

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program very similar to that one. Dr. Goldhor, formerly a professor in library science at the University of Illinois Library School, asked many thought provoking questions about the methods of disseminating state aid and about the future plans for library expansion in the state.

The American Heritage Project was responsible for the third visitor, Miss Eileen Riols. Working currently in New York with American Heritage groups, Miss Riols has been young adult librarian with Kingsbridge Branch of the New York Public Library. She is serving now as part time consultant in the headquarters office in Chicago, on the "Know Your America", a project that is the young adult phase of the American Heritage Project. She was present at the second training session held in Jackson under Mr. Dooley's direction late in October.

As this issue of LIBRARY NEWS goes to press, plans are underway for entertainment of a fourth visitor in the presence of Mrs. Alice F. Dalbey, assistant in charge of program planning in the national Heritage office and formerly of the Denver Public Library. Mrs. Dalbey states in her preliminary correspondence that while most of her work is scheduled for the western part of the country she does want, after having heard of the "fine work being done in Mississippi", to have an opportunity to view first hand some of the groups in the state. She will be in the state the week of December 10 through 17 and Mrs. Clark is making plans for her to see as many libraries, discussion groups and discussion leaders, as time and distance will permit.

IX. ANNUAL REPORTS

1. What They Show

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Public library reports received in September indicate some gains in financial support and progress in various phases of development. These are samples of some past accomplishments and future possibilities.

The Lincoln County Library, Brookhaven, received an increase in tax millage which gives them a one-mill tax income from the County in addition to the appropriation from the city.

Holmes County Board of Supervisors, Durant, increased the library appropriation from \$500.00 to \$600.00 per month.

Adams County Library, Natchez, bought their first bookmobile and opened a branch for colored patrons.

The Clarksdale-Coahoma County city library budget will be increased to \$24,000 for the coming year. The county makes a one-half mill levy. making an annual income of around \$40,500.

Receipts of the Biloxi Public doubled for the year — from \$4,000 to \$8,000. Other gains were the reorganization and legalization of the library board and some renovation and rearrangement in the library building.

The Jackson County Library, Pascagoula, had an increase of \$5,000 for the year, purchased and put a new bookmobile into operation and secured a legal library board.

The first nine months' operation of the Lawrence County Library, Monticello, has been marked with success. The enthusiasm and vigor of a good library board and the librarian prove what can be done on a small budget — the one-mill library tax of \$4,188 per year.

The Vicksburg Library anticipates an increase of several thousand dollars' income for the coming year, making a total near \$20,000. They have plans for establishing a branch to serve negro patrons.

The Pontotoc County Library on a \$6,000 budget proves that determination and continuous effort will secure a bookmobile (what does it matter if it isn't a new one?) and make it possible to take books to all parts of the county, including all white and negro schools.

2. Let The People Know

The librarian's annual report to the board and to the public need not be a dull, unattractive thing but may be colorful, concise, short and to the point, which makes for easy reading and an assurance that it will not land immediately in the waste basket. Copies of some such reports that have recently come to the Library Commission are from The Lee County Library. Jackson Public and the First Regional Library. These are examples of saying a great deal in small space, of putting figures and facts in graphic form. The cover on the Lee County report shows a long yellow key — THE KEY TO THE SITUATION — with only a few lines on each small page giving pertinent facts on such items as hours (illustrated by hands on the clock), Service, Activities, Finances, etc. Significant excerpts from the Jackson Public report seem well worth quoting:

"More and more adults have turned to the library for materials to help interpret the times, to enrich daily living, to increase efficiency in business, to beautify homes and lawns, and other phases of education and recreation... The use of the library cannot be measured by statistics, but can only offer an index to its use... the Mayor and Commissioners, and Library Board have had a definite program which has been followed over a ten year period: Administrative organization staffed by specialists to acquire and interpret materials for education and development of a community beyond formal education; to enrich and supplement the formal education program; to provide the best in literature for the entire community; adequate funds and facilities to administer a city-wide library system . . The City Council has made this possible by their vision, financial ability, courage to ask the support of the citizens for a bond issue of \$600,000 . . . Funds for operation of the system in 1955 will be \$115,000."

City funds have made possible a Jackson library system consisting of three branches now in operation and a beautiful new central library building which is being completed and ready for occupation. Dedication of the new library has been set for December 7. Future plans fall for further expansion and more branch libraries to serve various part of the city.

The report of the First Region, a two-fold page printed in red on yellow, makes short statements of facts such as:

"117,562 books were circulated, or the equivalent of one and twotenth books for every man, woman and child in the four-county region.

"67,874 people came in to the bookmobiles and the nine branch libraries."

The Truth Will Out

One librarian (**Meridian Public**) thinks the best way to make a report to the Board of Trustees is simply to tell the truth, to face facts as they are. This excellent report is well worth sharing, in the manner of reporting and in the information given. These are quotations:

"The report of the use of the libraries for the past year is one which presents a rather static picture - it is not especially encouraging nor is it YET alarming. The total increase in circulation for the entire year was only 1.05% — the smallest of any year since 1946 and at the main library, which accounts for approximately 3/5 of the total circulation, there was a decrease of almost 4%. This loss at the main library would have been greater (the loss in adult circulation was nearly 9%) had it not been for the great response to the children's reading program during the summer. Although the response to this program was gratifying, the fact that because of it all other services of the library were curtailed makes its repetition seem unjustified unless special provision can be made for it. Such provision (as well as for increased service to adults) is inherent in the plans for the new children's room . . . Approximately 1/3 of the year's circulation was in the service to rural areas, and its increase of nearly 10% was partly due to the new service of placing books in the three largest county schools for negroes, a service which is not on a really healthy basis since all of these books were borrowed from the Mississippi Library Commission, as were some 500 used in the children's reading program at the main library - needless to say, these books cannot be borrowed indefinitely."

Get Ready For The Upswing

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"Part of the decrease at the main library was probably due to the operation for a full year of a local TV station. Judging by the experience of libraries in other cities, this was to be expected, but these same cities report that following the TV-caused decrease there is usually an upswing in library use after a year or two . . . The Meridian libraries must be ready for this upswing when it comes. One unfortunate element in the development of the local library has been that we have always followed an expressed demand sometime after it has become evident, rather than being ready to meet it as soon as it is felt . . . The response to questionnaires sent to various organizations in the city last spring showed two things: (1) A need and a desire for some new services to groups; (2) Ignorance on the part of some groups as to services already available. The first of these can only be taken care of gradually, through time and increased facilities; the second could be partly met if it were possible to take advantage of the TV station's request for a series of programs publicizing the various services offered by the library. This is not possible because of the lack of time and suitable personnel to present them."

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Take Time By The Forelock

"The timing of library improvements is too slow for needs of the community. If we are not ready to meet demands as soon as they become apparent, they will cease to be made and the library will stagnate. A review of annual reports shows that the need for a real children's service has been stressed for the last seven years, and yet it is being established only this year . . . If this timetable is followed for other needed improvements, the library's fiftieth anniversary (in 1963) will find it still woefully inadequate; and certainly an institution's fiftieth year, like a man's, is a time for assessing accomplishments, as well as planning for the future."

A Librarian Confesses

"Your librarian assumes full responsibility for one phase of weakness in the library's planning and admits that she shared with the Board of that time an over-optimistic view of the selling power of improved library service when 6 years ago it was decided to go ahead on 3/4 the requested budget and try to provide all of the recommended library service. Full blame for not letting the library Board, and therefore the public, know that this was an impossible situation which could not go on indefinitely belongs to the librarian. This failure was caused by a combination of false pride, false humility, and false optimism. These attitudes have obviously not benefitted the library, and the recognition of them and the realization that because of them the Board would be totally unprepared to cope with the situation if anything should happen to the present librarian have, I assure you, caused her many sleepless nights during the past two years. To rectify, to some extent, this failure, she now proposes to give you an explanation of why past progress is not healthy and firm and her recommendations for stronger progress in the next few years."

"The 'false pride' was a determination to do what needed to be done with or without necessary income facilities and staff. This was done by an unintelligent refusal to admit that too long hours and no time off would eventually reach the point where it could no longer continue and by the loyal and foolishly impossible amount of work performed by most members of the staff. The "false humility" was a refusal to admit to the Board that the librarian was trying to do the impossible with a staff which was paid too little to be kept on the permanent basis so necessary for that kind of an effort. The "false optimism" was the sincere belief that by the time the situation had reached impossibility the income of the library would be on a stable and adequate foundation."

Big Plans Have Magic To Stir Men's Blood

"To overcome the situation as it now exists and to make the library what it should be by its fiftieth anniversary, the librarian recommends that the following things be done.

- The Board to set up a description of what the library should be, NOW, and certainly in another ten years.
- To promulgate a timetable for each step in the process of reaching these goals.
- To present this timetable and description to the City Council and Board of Supervisors for their information, approval and long-term planning so that they will be under no misapprehen-

sion that they are now providing a good library service which no longer needs improvement.

 To publicize this "master plan" and timetable in every possible way so that the people of this area will know whose is the responsibility for any lack of progress.

As an example is the following fragmentary timetable:

1. Immediate needs:

Adequate children's service. Provision of an adequate and sound salary scale for the library staff. Until salaries are improved it will be impossible to build and hold a staff of permanent people. Provision of additional group services for adults (this will be possible on a small scale when the children's set-up begins). Provision of necessary work, reading, and shelf space for adults for the next few years (This also will be improved by

By 1956, the provision of funds to study the requirements for size, location, etc., of a new library building and any needed branches or urban bookmobile service.

the establishment of the new children's room).

This should be followed by immediate beginning of preliminary plans so that advantage could be taken of any proposed bond issue elections to get the funds for the library building.

By 1958 or 1959, the establishment of good urban bookmobile service."

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 By 1963, a new and adequate main library building, with at least plans for any branches which may be indicated.

A library income of at least \$1.25 per capita so that the local library can at least approach minimum standards for acceptable service. The full legal special library levy from both city and county would give more than this even today; in fact, the millage levy or its equivalent requested six years ago would yield several thousand dollars more than this year's budget request.

5. An immediate and continuing close liaison with both the City Council and Board of Supervisors by having either one of the Board of Trustees or the librarian make periodic brief, personal reports to them on plans and progress—and a planned and steady program of reporting to the public on these same matters.

It is to be hoped that these suggestions do not seem too far-fetched for your consideration, but your librarian felt that she must get these confessions and suggestions off her conscience. Morever, she has long held to the philosophy expressed by Archaeologist David Burnham in these words:

Make no little plans. They have no magic to stir men's blood and probably themselves will never be realized. Make BIG plans, aim high . . . remembering that a noble, logical diagram once recorded will never die.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES REPORT October 1953 — September 1954

		Income	Total Inc.	1953 Assessed		Expenditur Books &	Total Inc.		Books		Per	Popu-
COUNTY-LIBRARY LOCATION	County	City	Gifts, Fines, etc.	Valuation (County)	Salaries	Periodi-	Operational	Owned	Borrowed	Circu	Capita	(1950 ensus)
Adams—Natchez Attala—Kosciusko Bolivar—Cleveland	\$ 12,500.00 9,600.00 1,620.00	\$ 12,500.00 1,020.00 300.00	\$ 26,198.77 10,913.30 1,920.00	\$ 31,334,634 11,192,062 32,298,563	\$ 16,031.55 6,442.35 1,200.00	\$ 7,504.05 3,734.94 585.21	\$ 37,733.52 10,946.60 1,785.21	14,677 8,905 4,850	1,216 963 400	57,377	18.4.6	32,256 26,652 63,004
Rosedale Chickasaw—Houston	320	2,405.33	704	6,119,916			4,220.38	5,306	350	3,300	19	18,951
Claiborne—Port Gibson	480.00	300.00	882.58	6,166,748	390.00	396.55	878.69	9,624	783	6,912	16.0	11,944
Coahoma—Clarksdale Copiah—Haziehurst	15,000.00	2,300.00	39,554.32	31,803,289			40,100.59	59,308 15,340	831	146,452	188	49,361
Forest—namesburg George—Lucedale Grenada—Grenada Hancock—Bay St. Louis	1,260.00	4	1,435.00	5,411,015 9,728,297 9,389,828	1,200.00 6,412.77	1,464.92	1,375.00	13,125	300	11,071	14:24	10,012 18,830
Harrison—Gulfport	500.00	11,525.00 8,000.00	38,088.15	45,555,797	20,063.58	8,806.03	33,138.08	2,000	200	151,443	55	84,073
Hinds—Jackson Holmes—Durant	6,000.00	79,500.00	83,009.48 8,219.76	166	51,613.61 4,707.65	23,252.77	82,646.95 8,166.90	3,000 62,090 14,166	1,765	224,908	18:81	33,301
Jackson—Pascagoula Jefferson Davis—Prentiss Jones—Laurel Circulating	2,400.00	3	2,400.00 9,510.56	363 363 360	6,605.88 1,250.00 5,238.80	498 811 503	28,221,76 2,230,21 9,628,43	2,276	980	55,086 8,898 74,606	115	31,401 15,500 57,235
Lamar—Purvis Lauderdale—Meridian Lawrence—Monticello (9 months)	12,179.13	180.00 25,115.46	38,962.68 4,309.82	3555	18,679.35 756.84	8,342.78 1,886.42	36,922.31 2,895.50	968 58,937	1,193	3,942	20.02	13,225
	3,017.00	8,239.79	3,149.50 22,830.32 22,239.26	8882	1,263.00	4,943.26 4 457.91	20,138.41 20,138.41	21,542	1,994	315,804	11.8.4	21,610 38,237
Lincoln—Brookhaven (9 months) Lowndes—Columbus Madison—Canton Marion—Columbia	8,886.63 1,200.00 720.00 2,200.00	3,300.00 1,600.00 634.00 600.00	12,875.63 3,878.05 2,286.74 3,877.35	13,505,861 17,644,963 14,890,467 10,487,744	6,063.10 1,603.50 2,412.00 1,545.00	3,126.73 1,015.21 753.82 1,211.50	10,273.93 4,016.77 3,478.56 3,256.75	13,333 10,237 10,503 6,944	930 1119 650	20,888 21,785 28,794	910191	27,899 37,852 33,860 23,967
Marshall—Holly Springs •Monroe—Aberdeen-Evans Memorial (Affiliated with Tombigbee Regional)	340.00	2,520.00	7,612.21	88	5,516.47	1,462.28	8,453.43	***************************************	32	60,473	1 1	

PUBLIC LIBRARIES REPORT (Continued) October 1953 — September 1954

COUNTY-LIBRARY LOCATION	County	Income	Total Inc. Gifts, Fines, etc.	1953 Assessed Valuation (County)	Salaries	Expenditures Books & T Periodi- Op cals A	Total Inc. Operational Allocation	Owned	Borrowed	Circ	Per Popu- u- Capita lation (1830 d Income Census)	Popul lation (1950
Montgomery—Winona Neshoba-Philadelphia Newton-Newton Noxubee—Macon Oktibeha—Starkville Peari River—Picayune	720.00 600.00 900.00 300.00 150.00	456.00 600.00 2,500.00 960.00 300.00 1,900.00	1,621.10 1,322.81 2,545.93 2,280.00 637.50 2,498.53	6,742,775 7,021,078 8,796,977 8,250,673 9,621,567 11,687,254		494.40 147.21 760.32 319.55 404.56 970.90	1,729.56 1,184.90 2,455.41 2,207.76 490.73 2,552.61	7,667 2,900 6,730 13,297 9,145 7,491	72 908 546 191 524	10,898 14,534 16,522 8,749 8,254	0.00	14,470 25,730 22,861 20,022 24,569 20,641
Pearl River—Picayune Poplarville Poplarville	450.00 300.00	1,900.00	2,498.53 950.00 1,776.75	17,260,940	1,223.00 450.00 1,502.50	970.90 175.00 783.34		7,491 6,360 15,808	5574	13,453 18,508	.05	35,1
Pontotoc—Pontotoc Oultman—Marks	4,754.43	1,282.86	6,116.70 868.25	5,387,728 13,057,129	2,654.00	1,936.89		3.784	1,268	45,180 8.175	031	19,994
Sunflower—Ruleville	4,900.00	4,405.00	10,019.00	26,679,399	6,225.00	1,323.66		14,104	1,555	77,520	21	35
Union—New Albany	6,761.39	720.00	7,834.85	7,065,637	3,600.00	3,063.55		16,519	128	58.742	38	20
Warren-Vicksburg	5,000.00	9,600.00	17.041.75	31,777,337	10,440.00	3,546.93		32,109	88	59,581	.43	39,
Leland Leland	1.000.00	00.000	1.904.31	46,000,400	1.200.00	278.97		3.746	550	8.012	80.)	10,0
Winston—Louisville Yazoo—Yazoo City	1,844.33 2,500.00	1,460.00	2,668.86 7,358.98	10,268,801 23,149,030	1,628.50 3,680.00	1,268.68		5,651 28,675	395	14,444 37,459	212	22,231 35,712
Regional Libraries Capital Region: Raymond— Hinds, Rankin, Scott												
Simpson Counties 'irst Region: Hernando— DeSoto, Lafayette, Panola,	46,290.49		61,761.16	66,780,323	37,833.73	7,802.64	53,619.03	34,459	2,700	171,077	. 53	116,274
Northeast Region: Corinth— Alcorn, Prentiss, Tippah,	94 384 90	2 000 00	22 745 91	262 282 294	99 990 90	R 114 48		98 000	7 490	297 500	4 :	9 0
ombigbee Region: West Point—	(18,079.60	5,550.00	27,758.64	24,095,450	15,362.80	6,264.98	29,076.46	21,800	1,100	80,615	(.65	54,300
Evans Memorial Library, Aberdeen	(18,419.60	2,520.00 8,070.00	7,612.21 35,370.85	24,095,450	5,516.47 20,879.27	1.462.28 7,732.26	8,453.43 37,529.89	21,800	22	60,473 141,088	ıî	
GRAND TOTAL— COUNTIES & REGIONS	\$331,582.96	\$244,581.34	\$682,658.74	\$907,536,455	\$384,414.58	\$156,564.58	\$672,483.69	792,740	43,119	128,658		1,829,866

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